

Oregon Solutions-Columbia Levee Improvement Project  
**Technical Advisory SubCommittee (TASC)**

**June 22, 2015**  
**2:00-4:00 p.m.**

*Draft* Notes

**Meeting Participants**

*Steering Committee:* Mike Stuhr, Cheryl Grabham and Travis Ruybal.

TASC Members: Mike Moran, Brian Eberhardt, Nancy Hendrickson, Sara Morrissey, Steve Lucker, Karen Stewart, Eileen Argentina and Jonathon Soll

By Phone: Bill Ryan, Travis, Allan Berry and Melinda Butterfield

*Facilitation Team:* Rick Mogren and Julia Babcock

*Other Attendees:* Martha Johnston and Ron Delp,

**Meeting Objectives**

- To review the TASC operating protocol and update and revise as needed to reflect the changes for Phase II.
- To discuss updates to SOW's for Climate Change modeling, Economic Inventory and the Encroachment Evaluation.
- To review the scope of work for the Environmental Resource Inventory.

**Next Steps**

- Send out revised Operating Protocols to be finalized at July 20, 2015 meeting.
- Receive feedback from TASC, NERC and Metro for amendment to Economic Inventory regarding potential insurance impacts if existing building footprints were to be mapped in Special Flood Hazard Area ([SFHA](#)).
- USGS and USACE will share revised Climate Change modeling SOW at July 20, 2015 meeting. At that time, we will discuss whether a Climate Change SubCommittee will be created or if questions and review of modeling will occur by the TASC at large.
- Sara Morrissey reminded TASC members that the inventories and climate change study cannot move forward until the project partners agree on the revenue stream for the proposed FY15-16 budget.
- Sara Morrissey will email around task order for CES to conduct survey work for review by TASC.
- Set up subcommittee meetings as needed to finalize SOW's to get evaluations under way once the final budget is approved.

**Brief Meeting Summary**

- The Oregon Solutions Team has decided to call all supporting work groups subcommittees to reflect that all report up to the full team. Therefore, the TAC will now be the Technical Advisory SubCommittee (TASC).

- We walked through the Operating Protocol together to make revisions for how we will work together in Phase II including:
  - Ensure MCDD, SDIC and SIDIC are listed to show partnership and geographic project expansion.
  - Underlying assumption that is you are an official TASC member, you represent technical expertise from your organization whether it be government or non-governmental organization (ngo).
  - Intent to make recommendations compatible with existing authorities to make sure proposed alternatives are not only technically feasible but also implementable.
  - It would be helpful to have other districts represented in the TASC Steering Committee (e.g. the Port or eastern cities).
  - Take out CPS and OS as facilitation team in case the contract changes.
- Reviewed updated SOW for Economic Inventory. Sara Morrissey requested to make an amendment based on conversations she had with floodplain managers at a recent national conference. Instead of including a section on case study comparisons Ms. Morrissey thought it would be a good idea to assess the flood insurance rate impact if existing building footprints were to be designated as a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) by FEMA if accreditation were not acquired and the area was re-mapped. This additional assessment will help us understand the financial impact to property owners of not obtaining accreditation. For example, if a property is mapped into the SFHA, then flood insurance is mandated and the requirements for loans and mortgages are typically affected. Any changes to the property or new construction would mandate compliance with floodplain development standards. Ms. Morrissey will speak to the contractors to see if this change is scope is feasible and will share an edited SOW with the TASC.
- The Climate Change SOW is being developed through USGS and USACE.
  - Currently the two agencies are working on the following for the proposed SOW:
    - Weaving together the USGS modeling effort and the USACE modeling work and furthermore illustrating how these elements complement one another.
    - Developing a model sensitivity runs to determine if downstream tides are more significant drivers of stage at MCDD structures than are flows at BONN. This will help greatly in designing the modeling boundary conditions, modeling scenarios, and related tasks.
    - Including either monthly or quarterly meetings with TASC.
  - The TASC discussed that even if it turns out that no additional height needs to be added to the levee based on climate change modeling, it is important to understand the implications of climate change to understand the potential risks, meet federal guidelines and be competitive for funding down the line.
- Brian Eberhardt has been hired for 3 months as a Project Assistant to oversee the Encroachment Evaluation. The SOW focuses on structural encroachments first (limited to buildings) which entails looking at the levee ROW to inventory if and

where buildings sit in relation to the critical design section and how that may or may not impact the function of the levee in the case of a high water event.

- Brian will present this information to the Communications Subcommittee to help develop talking points for interested parties. Information will be posted on the MCDD and OS websites and letters will be sent out to affected property owners. Important to note, his evaluation is part of Phase II information gathering efforts and is not decisional.
- The Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) draft SOW was shared for initial input.
  - Discussed format and whether it makes sense to pair work with Climate Change modeling. TASC determined that expanding the SOW for the Climate Change work could delay the schedule. Further, the climate change work is testing different scenarios where as the ERI is documenting existing conditions.
  - TASC members agreed that it would be helpful to have a spatial element to the ERI, potentially a map that could be utilized in the alternatives analysis.
  - Though excluding an analysis of the permitting requirements, we are hoping to pull existing data from permitted projects that have come before such as the Columbia River Crossing or other major infrastructure projects.
  - Budget for ERI is \$92,000.
  - Julia Babcock will send out draft RFP parameters for subcommittee to consider what can be done in-house vs. what could be completed by a consultant.
  - The geographic scope is the area within the districts behind the levees.
  - Mrs. Martha Johnston said that she believed her neighborhood association would look forward to building on work that has been underway to show natural resource values.
  - The Biological Opinion is not yet out from NOAA.
  - In addition to committed subcommittee members, Caitlyn Lovell from BES has been invited to participate. Additional membership could come from Audubon, PP&R and NOAA.